

19p.

N68 84000

**SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY**

**Research in Space Science**

**SPECIAL REPORT NO. 30**

**November 12, 1959**

**Cambridge, Massachusetts**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Anticipated Orbital Perturbations of Satellite 1959 Delta Two -- by Yoshihide Kozai and Charles A. Whitney .....	1
A Table of the Times of Perigee Passage for Satellite 1958 Beta Two -- by R. E. Briggs .....	9
Note on the Secular Motions of the Node and Perigee of an Artificial Satellite -- by Yoshihide Kozai .....	14

CR-50,743

# ANTICIPATED ORBITAL PERTURBATIONS OF SATELLITE 1959 DELTA TWO

by

Yoshihide Kozai\* and Charles A. Whitney\*\*  
Astrophysical Observatory, Smithsonian Institution

## 1. Introduction

As announced by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in a press release dated August 21, 1959 (see Appendix), the orbit of Satellite 1959 Delta Two, the "Paddle-Wheel," is significantly affected by lunar and solar perturbations. Thus, Satellite 1959 Delta Two is unique among satellites launched to date and we believe it worthwhile to publish the present analysis to provide a basis for anticipating its orbital behavior.

Starting from the orbital elements provided by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for September 3, 1959, we have carried out numerical integration to predict the future behavior of this satellite. These integrations, based on variation of parameters, are preliminary in nature. Techniques for a more precise analysis of the orbit are in preparation.

The equations employed are outlined in Section 2. The technique of integration was a simple one taking the semi-major axis as independent variable.

## 2. The Perturbation Equations

a) Solar and Lunar Perturbations. -- Variations of the orbital eccentricity due to the moon and the sun are expressed by the equation (Kozai, 1959),

$$\frac{de}{dt} = - \frac{\sqrt{1-e^2}}{na^2e} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \omega}, \quad (1)$$

where the principal terms of R are:

$$\begin{aligned} R = & \frac{15}{8} e^2 a^2 \left[ n_o^2 \cos^4 \frac{i}{2} \cos^4 \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cos 2(\lambda_o - \omega) \right. \\ & + \frac{1}{2} (n_o^2 m_{\epsilon} + n_o^2) \sin^2 i \left( 1 - \frac{3}{2} \sin^2 \epsilon \right) \cos 2\omega \\ & + \frac{1}{2} n_o^2 m_{\epsilon} \left\{ \sin^2 \epsilon \cos^4 \frac{i}{2} \cos 2(\omega + \Omega - \Omega_{\epsilon}) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \sin i \cos^2 \frac{i}{2} \sin 2\epsilon \cos (2\omega + \Omega - \Omega_{\epsilon}) \right\} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} n_o^2 \left\{ \sin^2 \epsilon \cos^4 \frac{i}{2} \cos 2(\omega + \Omega) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \sin i \cos^2 \frac{i}{2} \sin 2\epsilon \cos (2\omega + \Omega) \right\} \\ & \left. + n_o^2 \sin i \cos^2 \frac{i}{2} \sin \epsilon \cos^2 \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cos (2\lambda_o - 2\omega - \Omega) \right]. \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

---

\* Astronomer, Satellite Tracking Program

\*\* Physicist, Division of Solar Radiation Studies, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, and Research Associate, Harvard College Observatory.

Here,  $n_o$  is the mean motion of the sun;  $n_e$ , that of the moon;  $\epsilon$ , the obliquity;  $\lambda_o$ , the mean longitude of the sun;  $m_o$ , the mass of the moon (the unit is the mass of the earth); and  $\Omega_e$ , the longitude of the ascending node of the moon with respect to the earth's equator. On the right side of equation (2),  $i$ ,  $\Omega$  and  $\omega$  may be considered not to be affected by the moon and the sun.

As the semi-major axis does not change rapidly due to the moon and the sun, the variation of the perigee distance,  $q$ , is

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = -a \frac{de}{dt} \quad (3)$$

b) Oblateness Perturbations. -- The rates of change of the argument of perigee and the right ascension of the ascending node were computed from the usual first-order equations,

$$\frac{d\omega}{dN} = \frac{J}{p^2} (2 - 2.5 \sin^2 i), \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{d\Omega}{dN} = -\frac{J}{p^2} \cos i,$$

where  $N$  is the revolution number and  $p = a(1 - e^2)$ . The value  $J = .0016230$  was employed as well as the equation,

$$P = .0586745 a^{3/2} \quad (5)$$

relating the orbital period in days to the semi-major axis in units of 6378.388 km.

c) Atmospheric-drag Perturbations. -- The effects of atmospheric drag on the orbital energy and the perigee height were introduced in the following manner.

The effect on perigee height was computed from the approximation,

$$\frac{dq}{dQ} = \frac{H}{ae}, \quad (6)$$

where  $H$  is the atmospheric scale height. This relation can be transformed to the equation,

$$\frac{dq}{da} = \frac{2}{Kae + 1} \quad (7)$$

where  $K = H^{-1}$ .

This approximation is valid for orbits of high eccentricity, but clearly is very poor for low eccentricities. We do not feel that the present calculations would be significantly affected by a more precise computation of  $dq/da$ .

The drag effect on orbital period was evaluated with a formula derived to be valid for a wide range of eccentricities.

The loss of energy due to drag may be written as

$$du = \frac{C_D}{2} A \rho w^2 ds, \quad (8)$$

where  $C_D$  is the drag coefficient,  $A$  is the satellite's effective cross-sectional area,  $\rho$  is the atmospheric density,  $w$  is the orbital velocity, and  $ds$  is the differential of distance along the orbit.

For the orbital velocity we substituted the value at perigee,

$$w^2 = k^2 \frac{1+e}{a(1-e)}.$$

For  $ds$  we used the equations,

$$\frac{ds}{dv} = r \left( 1 + \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{dr}{dv} \right)^2 \right)^{1/2}, \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{dr}{dv} = r \frac{\sin v}{1+e \cos v}$$

On the assumption that  $v$ , the true anomaly, is much less than one radian in the region of significant drag, we derived the equation,

$$ds = a(1-e) \left( 1 + \frac{e}{1+e} v^2 \right) dv. \quad (10)$$

We further assumed that the atmospheric density above perigee can be represented by an exponential function of height, writing  $\rho(v) = \rho(q) \exp(-K(q)(r(v) - q))$ .

We then found that

$$du = \frac{C_D}{2} A \rho(q) k^2 (1+e) \left( 1 + \frac{e}{1+e} v^2 \right) \exp\left(\frac{-Kqe}{2(1+e)} v^2\right) dv. \quad (11)$$

Integrating over true anomaly and employing the relation

$$da = \frac{a^2}{mk^2} du,$$

where  $m$  is the satellite mass, leads to the following expression for  $\Delta a$ , the change of semi-major axis per revolution,

$$\Delta a = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} C_D \frac{A}{m} \rho(q) \frac{(1+e)^{3/2}}{\sqrt{Kqe}} a^2 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{Kq} \right). \quad (12)$$

We note that the integration around an orbit is performed with an exponential atmosphere. However, because of the wide range of perigee height produced by the lunar and

solar perturbations it was not sufficiently accurate to assume that the entire atmosphere was isothermal.

We employed the following formulae for  $\rho(q)$  and  $K(q)$ :

$$\rho(q) = 7.94 \times 10^{-11} \exp(-161.55(q-1) + 2.3029 \exp(-138.46(q-1) + 2.8)), \quad (13)$$

$$K(q) = 161.55 + 318.86 \exp(-138.46(q-1) + 2.8),$$

where  $\rho$  is in  $\text{gm/cm}^3$ ,  $q$  is in units of 6378.388 km, and  $K$  is in  $\text{km}^{-1}$ .

Table 1 lists the values of  $\log_{10} \rho$  derived from this model and from the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory Interim Model Atmosphere No. 4.

Table 1

ATMOSPHERIC DENSITIES

Height (Km)	$\log_{10} \rho \text{ (gm/cm}^3\text{)}$	
	Approximation	Model 4
150	-11.12	-11.08
180	-11.75	-11.77
210	-12.24	-12.29
240	-12.65	-12.73
270	-13.02	-13.09

### 3. Numerical Results

The perturbed orbit has been calculated from the following initial orbit:

Epoch 1959 September 3, 150 GMT

$$\begin{aligned} a &= 4.3446 \\ e &= .7604 \\ i &= 47.10 \\ \omega &= 41.66 \\ \Omega &= 55.62 \end{aligned}$$

The results are summarized in Figures 1, 2, and 3. The arrows indicate the date of launching. In these figures the integrations for two values of  $A/m$  are shown, in order to indicate the sensitivity of the orbit to variations of atmospheric density and effective area of the satellite.

The semi-annual variation of perigee distance is produced by the solar perturbation and does not drastically affect the satellite lifetime. The lunar perturbation produces the rapid drop of perigee around 600 days after September 3, 1959 and ends the life of the satellite.

The two "acceleration" curves of  $da/dN$ , plotted logarithmically, are essentially mirror images of the perigee height.

Dr. Don Lautman has derived an acceleration of

$$\frac{da}{dN} = -1.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ earth radii}$$

from observations of this satellite during the first month of flight, and this value falls between the plotted curves.

#### References

KOZAI, Y.

1959. On the effects of the sun and the moon upon the motion of a close earth satellite. Special Rep. No. 22, Smithsonian Astrophys. Obs., p. 7.

#### APPENDIX

##### Reduction of "Paddle-Wheel" Satellite's Lifetime

Dr. Yoshihide Kozai, Astronomer of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, has predicted that the lifetime of the recently launched "paddle-wheel" satellite, Explorer VI, will be greatly reduced by perturbations of the moon's orbit. Perturbations are irregularities in the motion or orbit of a heavenly body caused by some force other than that which determines its usual path.

The "paddle-wheel" satellite's apogee of 25,000 miles is the greatest distance from the earth ever reached by any artificial satellite. Based on his prior investigation of the relation between satellite orbital irregularities and lunar perturbations, Dr. Kozai has determined that Explorer VI will be affected by the moon's gravitational field. This, in turn, will affect the perigee, drawing it down into the earth's atmosphere, leading to a significant increase in the air-drag effect.

Because of the severity of the moon's effect, the apogee of Explorer VI will be little affected by the atmospheric density at high altitudes responsible for bringing down other artificial satellites. Hence, the "paddle-wheel" will be the first satellite to have its lifetime appreciably disturbed by the moon.

The sun's attraction adds a small contribution to the shortening of this object's lifetime.

Dr. Charles A. Whitney, Physicist in charge, Research and Analysis, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, has performed a detailed numerical integration of Dr. Kozai's perturbation equations in combination with equations describing the effects of air-drag.

These calculations, performed with a high-speed electronic computer, show that although the lifetime of the satellite would be more than two decades in the absence of the moon, the lunar perturbations reduce the expected lifetime to about two years.

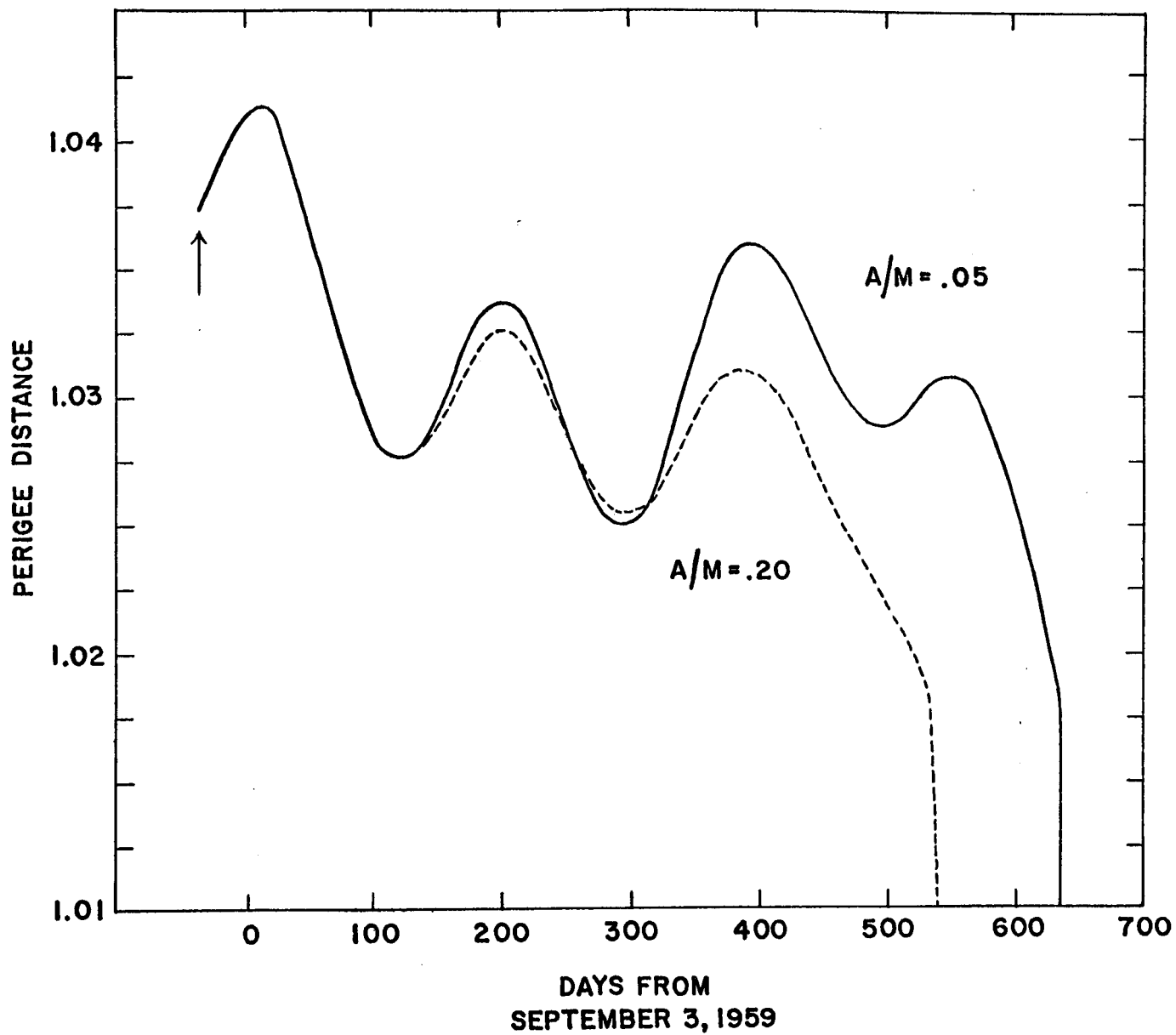


FIGURE 1. - EXPECTED PERIGEE DISTANCE OF 1959 DELTA TWO MEASURED IN UNITS OF EARTH RADII.



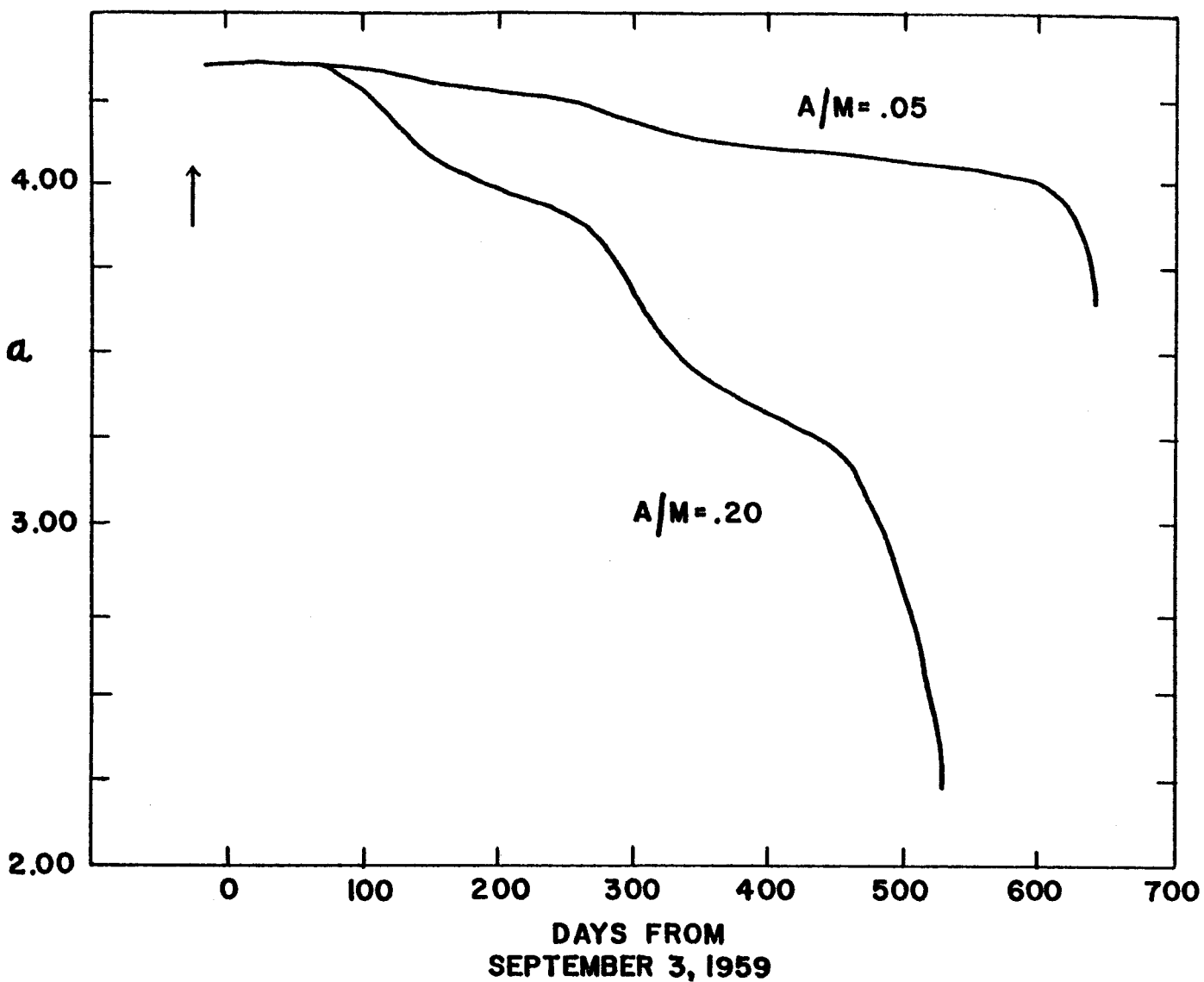


FIGURE 3. - EXPECTED SEMI-MAJOR AXIS OF 1959 DELTA TWO MEASURED IN EARTH RADII.

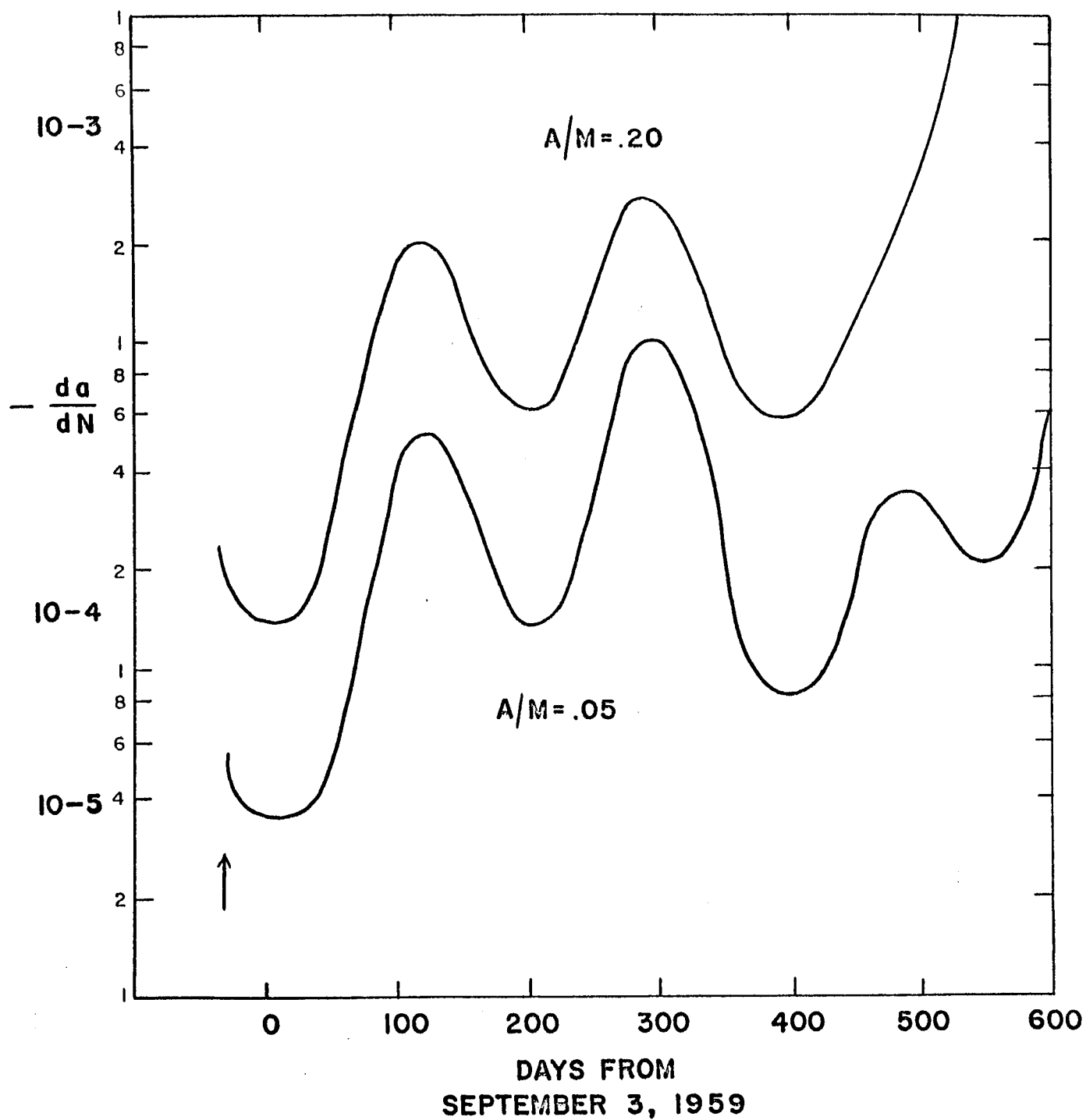


FIGURE 2. - EXPECTED ACCELERATION OF SATELLITE 1959 DELTA TWO GIVEN IN TERMS OF THE DECREASE OF SEMI-MAJOR AXIS (IN EARTH RADII) PER REVOLUTION.

Group 6 (N = 4500 to 5300)

$$P = .09310678 - 1.64166 \times 10^{-8} (N - 4500) + 1.81251 \times 10^{-11} (N - 4500)^2 \\ - 1.6668 \times 10^{-14} (N - 4500)^3$$

Group 7 (N = 5250 to 5600)

$$P = .09309703 - 1.100 \times 10^{-8} (N - 5300) + 2.001 \times 10^{-11} (N - 5300)^2$$

Expressions for the remaining parameters were derived from weekly orbit data supplied again by the NASA computing center. For all groups the following representations were used, where  $T = t - 1958 \text{ Oct. } 27.0$ :

$$\omega = 32^\circ 200 + 4^\circ 40566T + 2^\circ 09574 \times 10^{-5} T^2 - 3^\circ 9506 \times 10^{-9} T^3 + .100 \cos \omega$$

$$i = 34^\circ 249 - .008 \sin \omega + .003 \sin \left( \frac{T-25}{47.75} \right) \text{ rad}$$

$$q = 1.10235 - 1.9 \times 10^{-6} T - .00060 \sin \omega + .00025 \sin \left( \frac{T+100}{57.30} \right) \text{ (earth radii) rad}$$

The ascending node was represented by two separate expressions. For groups 1, 2, and 3,

$$\Omega = 200^\circ 573 - 3^\circ 01525 T - 1^\circ 251 \times 10^{-5} T^2 + 2.667 \times 10^{-9} T^3 + .028 \cos \omega$$

and for groups 4, 5, 6, and 7,

$$\Omega = 200^\circ 569 - 3^\circ 013883 T - 3^\circ 166 \times 10^{-5} T^2 + 3^\circ 483 \times 10^{-8} T^3 + .028 \cos \omega$$

Before May 6, 1958 there were sometimes gaps of several days with few or no observations. Furthermore, the orbits before this time were computed less frequently and are of generally poorer quality. For these reasons the earlier values of the passage times in Table 1 are given only to 5 decimal places.

References

JACCHIA, L. G., AND BRIGGS, R. E.

1958. Orbital acceleration of Satellite 1958 Beta Two. Special Rep. No. 18, Smithsonian Astrophys. Obs., pp. 9-12.

JACCHIA, L. G.

1958. Program for determination of geographic sub-satellite points. Special Rep. No. 11, Smithsonian Astrophys. Obs., p. 18.

# A TABLE OF THE TIMES OF PERIGEE PASSAGE FOR SATELLITE 1958 BETA TWO

by

R. E. Briggs\*

Astrophysical Observatory, Smithsonian Institution

The present table, which supersedes an earlier table (Jacchia and Briggs, 1958), is based on an analysis of nearly 4000 observations of Satellite 1958  $\beta$  2 made between March 17, 1958 and August 23, 1959. Nearly 95 percent of these are Minitrack observations,† almost 5 percent were obtained from Baker-Nunn photographs, while the remainder consist of Moonwatch observations. Each observation was used to compute a time of perigee passage, according to the sub-satellite point program of Jacchia (1958). Before performing this computation, however, this writer rewrote the entire program in a greatly expanded form for the IBM-704 Electronic Data Processing Machine. The new machine program permits the orbital parameters used for input to be represented by special functions such as those given below. After the individual times of perigee passage were computed, a graphical study of the results yielded well-determined curves from which the values in Table 1 were taken at regular intervals. The tabular values have been smoothed in 30 cases by  $\pm .000001$ ; no other smoothing was done. Since the second derivative,  $dP/dt$ , of these times of passage is of special interest to many investigators it is included in Table 1, and its behavior can be clearly seen in Figure 1.

In order to represent with sufficient accuracy the orbital parameters required by the computation program, the observations were divided into 7 overlapping groups according to the revolution number,  $N$ . Within each group a preliminary analysis using the machine program mentioned above showed that the anomalistic period,  $P$ , could be satisfactorily represented by the following expressions:

## Group 1 ( $N = 0$ to 1000)

$$P = .09325678 - 1.21974 \times 10^{-8} N - 1.75314 \times 10^{-11} N^2 + 1.052 \times 10^{-14} N^3$$

## Group 2 ( $N = 900$ to 1900)

$$P = .09323922 - 1.73808 \times 10^{-8} (N-909) + 1.83438 \times 10^{-11} (N-900)^2 - 2.2812 \times 10^{-14} (N-900)^3$$

## Group 3 ( $N = 1800$ to 2800)

$$P = .09321965 - 1.58580 \times 10^{-8} (N-1800) - 7.6437 \times 10^{-11} (N-1800)^2 + 4.688 \times 10^{-14} (N-1800)^3$$

## Group 4 ( $N = 2700$ to 3700)

$$P = .09317719 - 4.5234 \times 10^{-8} (N-2700) - 4.9062 \times 10^{-12} (N-2700)^2 + 7.396 \times 10^{-15} (N-2700)^3$$

## Group 5 ( $N = 3600$ to 4600)

$$P = .09313776 - 2.9854 \times 10^{-8} (N-3600) - 1.96875 \times 10^{-11} (N-3600)^2 + 1.7708 \times 10^{-14} (N-3600)^3$$

---

\* Mathematician, Division of Meteoritic Studies, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory.

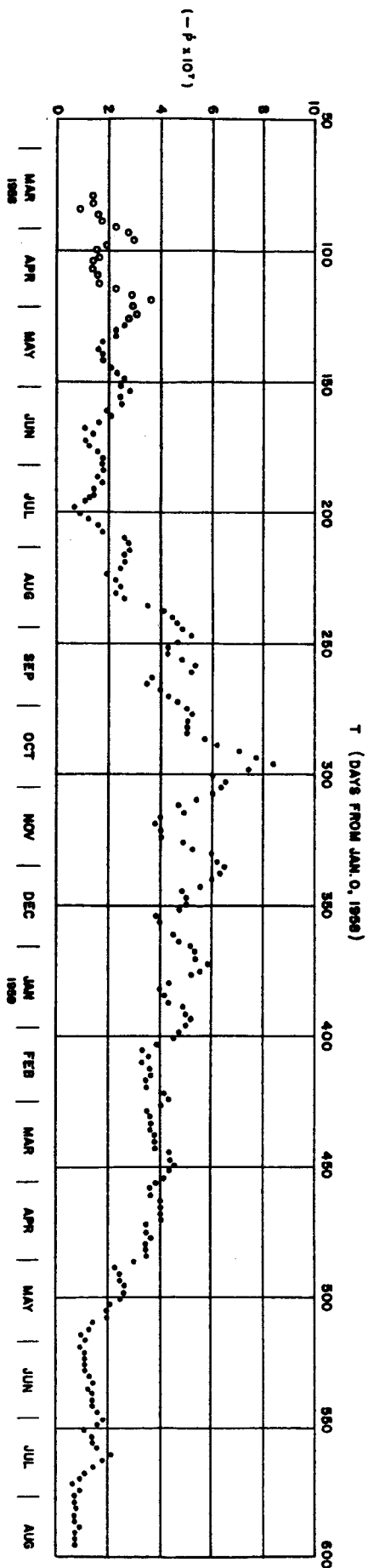
† Supplied by the NASA computing center.

Table 1 (continued)

N		$T_{\pi}$ (UT)	$-P \times 10^7$	N		$T_{\pi}$ (UT)	$-P \times 10^7$
2850		8 .299768	5.5	4275		20 .024914	3.4
2875		10 .628998	4.8	4300		22 .352752	3.6
2900		12 .958200	5.0	4325		24 .680569	3.4
2925		15 .287373	5.0	4350		27 .008366	3.4
2950		17 .616517	4.6	4375		29 .336143	3.4
2975		19 .945634	3.8	4400	May	1 .663900	2.9
3000		22 .274729	4.0	4425		3 .991640	2.2
3025		24 .603801	4.0	4450		6 .319367	2.4
3050		26 .932850	4.5	4475		8 .647080	2.4
3075		29 .261873	4.6	4500		10 .974779	2.6
3100		31 .590869	5.2	4525		13 .302463	2.6
3125	59 Jan.	2 .919835	5.3	4550		15 .630132	2.4
3150		5 .248770	5.3	4575		17 .957787	2.1
3175		7 .577674	5.8	4600		20 .285430	1.9
3200		9 .906544	5.5	4625		22 .613062	1.9
3225		12 .235382	5.2	4650		24 .940683	1.4
3250		14 .564190	4.3	4675		27 .268296	1.2
3275		16 .892973	4.0	4700		29 .595902	0.9
3300		19 .221733	4.1	4725		31 .923503	1.0
3325		21 .550469	4.3	4750	June	3 .251098	0.9
3350		23 .879180	4.8	4775		5 .578688	1.0
3375		26 .207863	5.0	4800		7 .906272	1.0
3400		28 .536517	5.2	4825		10 .233850	1.0
3425		30 .865141	5.0	4850		12 .561422	1.0
3450	Feb.	2 .193736	4.6	4875		14 .888988	1.2
3475		4 .522304	4.5	4900		17 .216547	1.4
3500		6 .850846	3.8	4925		19 .544098	1.2
3525		9 .179366	3.3	4950		21 .871642	1.4
3550		11 .507867	3.4	4975		24 .199178	1.4
3575		13 .836348	3.3	5000		26 .526706	1.4
3600		16 .164810	3.6	5025		28 .854226	1.6
3625		18 .493251	3.6	5050	July	1 .181737	1.7
3650		20 .821671	3.4	5075		3 .509238	1.6
3675		23 .150071	3.4	5100		5 .836730	1.0
3700		25 .478451	4.1	5125		8 .164216	1.4
3725		27 .806807	4.3	5150		10 .491694	1.4
3750	Mar.	2 .135138	4.0	5175		12 .819164	1.6
3775		4 .463446	3.4	5200		15 .146625	2.1
3800		6 .791732	3.6	5225		17 .474074	1.7
3825		9 .120001	3.6	5250		19 .801513	1.4
3850		11 .448247	3.6	5275		22 .128944	1.0
3875		13 .776472	3.8	5300		24 .456369	0.9
3900		16 .104675	3.8	5325		26 .783789	0.5
3925		18 .432856	3.8	5350		29 .111206	0.9
3950		20 .761015	4.3	5375		31 .438618	0.7
3975		23 .089149	4.3	5400	Aug.	2 .766026	0.7
4000		25 .417258	4.5	5425		5 .093430	0.9
4025		27 .745341	4.3	5450		7 .420830	0.7
4050		30 .073399	4.1	5475		9 .748226	0.7
4075	April	1 .401433	3.8	5500		12 .075618	0.9
4100		3 .729445	3.6	5525		14 .403005	0.7
4125		6 .057436	3.6	5550		16 .730388	0.7
4150		8 .385406	4.0	5575		19 .057767	0.7
4175		10 .713353	4.0	5600		21 .385142	
4200		13 .041277	4.0				
4225		15 .369178	4.0				
4250		17 .697056	3.4				

Table 1

N		$T_{\pi}$ (UT)	$-P \times 10^7$ (days/day)	N		$T_{\pi}$ (UT)	$-P \times 10^7$
0	58 Mar.	17	.61062	1425		28	.482903 2.6
25		19	.94203 1.4	1450		30	.813698 2.8
50		22	.27344 1.4	1475	Aug.	2	.144477 2.8
75		24	.60483 0.9	1500		4	.475240 2.6
100		26	.93623 1.5	1525		6	.805988 2.6
125		29	.26761 1.7	1550		9	.136721 2.4
150		31	.59898 2.2	1575		11	.467440 1.9
175	Apr.	2	.93034 2.8	1600		13	.798148 2.2
200		5	.26169 2.9	1625		16	.128843 2.4
225		7	.59301 1.9	1650		18	.459524 2.2
250		9	.92433 1.5	1675		20	.790192 2.6
275		12	.25564 1.5	1700		23	.120845 3.4
300		14	.58693 1.4	1725		25	.451478 4.1
325		16	.91823 1.4	1750		27	.782087 4.5
350		19	.24951 1.5	1775		30	.112670 4.6
375		21	.58078 1.5	1800	Sept.	1	.443226 4.8
400		23	.91204 2.2	1825		3	.773754 5.2
425		26	.24329 2.9	1850		6	.104252 4.6
450		28	.57453 3.6	1875		8	.434723 4.3
475		30	.90574 2.9	1900		10	.765169 4.3
500	May	3	.23693 3.1	1925		13	.095590 4.8
525		5	.56811 2.8	1950		15	.425983 5.3
550		7	.899270 2.6	1975		17	.756345 5.2
575		10	.230416 2.2	2000		20	.086677 3.6
600		12	.561549 2.2	2025		22	.416988 3.4
625		14	.892669 1.7	2050		24	.747279 4.0
650		17	.223779 1.5	2075		27	.077547 4.3
675		19	.554880 1.7	2100		29	.407790 4.6
700		21	.885971 1.7	2125	Oct.	1	.738006 5.0
725		24	.217052 2.1	2150		4	.068193 5.2
750		26	.548121 2.2	2175		6	.398351 5.0
775		28	.879177 2.6	2200		8	.728479 5.0
800		31	.210218 2.4	2225		11	.058578 5.0
825	June	2	.541245 2.7	2250		13	.388648 5.7
850		4	.872256 2.4	2275		15	.718685 6.2
875		7	.203253 2.5	2300		18	.048686 7.0
900		9	.534237 1.9	2325		20	.378646 7.7
925		11	.865210 2.1	2350		22	.708561 8.4
950		14	.196171 1.5	2375		25	.038427 7.4
975		16	.527123 1.0	2400		27	.368250 6.0
1000		18	.858069 1.4	2425		29	.698038 6.5
1025		21	.189007 1.0	2450	Nov.	1	.027788 6.4
1050		23	.519939 1.2	2475		3	.357501 6.0
1075		25	.850864 1.5	2500		5	.687179 5.3
1100		28	.181780 1.7	2525		8	.016826 4.6
1125		30	.512686 1.7	2550		10	.346446 4.8
1150	July	2	.843582 1.7	2575		12	.676038 4.0
1175		5	.174468 1.5	2600		15	.005607 3.8
1200		7	.505345 1.7	2625		17	.335154 4.0
1225		9	.836212 1.4	2650		19	.664678 4.0
1250		12	.167071 1.4	2675		21	.994179 4.8
1275		14	.497922 1.1	2700		24	.323652 5.2
1300		16	.828767 0.7	2725		26	.653095 6.0
1325		19	.159608 0.9	2750		28	.982503 6.2
1350		21	.490444 1.2	2775	Dec.	1	.311875 6.5
1375		23	.821273 1.5	2800		3	.641209 6.4
1400		26	.152093 1.7	2825		5	.970506 6.0



# NOTE ON THE SECULAR MOTIONS OF THE NODE AND PERIGEE OF AN ARTIFICIAL SATELLITE

by

Yoshihide Kozai\*  
Astrophysical Observatory, Smithsonian Institution

The values of the coefficients of the second and the fourth harmonics of the earth's gravitational potential, which I derived from the motion of the node and perigee of the first Vanguard Satellite 1958  $\beta$  2 (Kozai, 1959), are quite different from those obtained by other authors. Recently I discovered an error in my formula for the secular motion of the perigee as it appeared in the previous paper. Instead of

$$\dot{\omega} = \frac{\Lambda_2}{p^2} n (4 - 5 \sin^2 i) \left\{ \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\Lambda_2}{a^2} (1 - \frac{31}{48} \sin^2 i) \right\}$$

we must read

$$\dot{\omega} = \frac{\Lambda_2}{p^2} n (4 - 5 \sin^2 i) \left\{ \frac{1}{2} + \frac{29}{48} \frac{\Lambda_2}{a^2} \sin^2 i \right\}$$

This change should give more reasonable values for the coefficients. In the meantime, however, I have derived more complete formulae for the secular motions of the node and perigee, which are applicable to any satellite even if its eccentricity is not small. They are of closed form as far as the terms of order of  $\Lambda_2^2/a^4$ .

The new formulae are:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\Omega} = & - \frac{\Lambda_2}{p^2} n \cos i \left[ 1 + \frac{\Lambda_2}{p^2} \left\{ \frac{3}{2} + \frac{e^2}{6} - 2\sqrt{1-e^2} - \sin^2 i \left( \frac{5}{3} - \frac{5}{24} e^2 - 3\sqrt{1-e^2} \right) \right\} \right] \\ & - \frac{\Lambda_4}{p^4} n \cos i \left( \frac{6}{7} - \frac{3}{2} \sin^2 i \right) (1 + \frac{3}{2} e^2), \\ \dot{\omega} = & \frac{\Lambda_2}{p^2} n \left( 2 - \frac{5}{2} \sin^2 i \right) \left[ 1 + \frac{\Lambda_2}{p^2} \left\{ 2 + \frac{e^2}{2} - 2\sqrt{1-e^2} - \sin^2 i \left( \frac{43}{24} - \frac{e^2}{48} - 3\sqrt{1-e^2} \right) \right\} \right] \\ & - \frac{5}{12} \frac{\Lambda_2^2}{p^4} n e^2 \cos^4 i \\ & + \frac{\Lambda_4}{p^4} n \left[ \frac{12}{7} - \frac{93}{14} \sin^2 i + \frac{21}{4} \sin^4 i + e^2 \left( \frac{27}{14} - \frac{189}{28} \sin^2 i + \frac{81}{16} \sin^4 i \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

---

\* Astronomer, Optical Satellite Tracking Program.



Here  $n$  is the anomalistic mean motion and  $p = a(1-e^2)$ . Here  $i$  and  $e$  are their mean values over an entire orbital period, and  $a$  is determined from the equation,

$$n^2 a^3 = k^2 M \left\{ 1 - \frac{\Lambda_2}{2} \sqrt{1-e^2} \left( 1 - \frac{3}{2} \sin^2 i \right) \right\} .$$

Using the following data of Satellite 1958  $\beta$  2 for Oct. 16,  $12^h 27^m$  (UT), 1958, as used in Special Report No. 22,

$$\Omega = -3.014 \ 66 \text{ degrees per day,}$$

$$\omega = 4.404 \ 05 \text{ degrees per day,}$$

$$n = 3862.640 \text{ degrees per day,}$$

$$e = 0.190 \ 00,$$

$$i = 34.250 \text{ degrees,}$$

I derived as the values of  $\Lambda_2/a_c^2$  and  $\Lambda_4/a_c^4$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\Lambda_2}{a_c^2} = 1.6232 \times 10^{-3} , \\ \frac{\Lambda_4}{a_c^4} = 0.94 \times 10^{-5} . \end{array} \right.$$

These values are reasonable and are not very different from those by other authors.

#### References

KOZAI, Y.

1959. The earth's gravitational potential derived from the motion of Satellite 1958 Beta Two. Special Rep. No. 22, Smithsonian Astrophys. Obs., pp. 1-6.

**General Notice** -- This series of **Special Reports** was instituted under the supervision of Dr. F. L. Whipple, Director of the Astrophysical Observatory of the Smithsonian Institution, shortly after the launching of the first artificial earth satellite on October 4, 1957. Contributions come from the Staff of the Observatory. First issued to fulfill a demand for the rapid dissemination of satellite tracking data, the Reports have continued, to assist the rapid communication of current satellite data, data analyses, and material relating to progress in the astrophysical and space sciences.

The work reported in this series is supported, in part, through grants from the National Science Foundation and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and contracts with the Army Ballistic Missile Agency.

The Reports are produced under the supervision of Mrs. L. B. Davis, and edited by Mrs. L. G. Boyd.

The Reports are regularly distributed to all institutions participating in the U.S. space research program, and are also available, free of charge, to interested scientists. The Reports are indexed by the Science and Technology Division of the Library of Congress. To receive the Reports regularly or to obtain individual copies, please send a request to Administrative Officer, Technical Information, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge 38, Massachusetts.